

METHOD 7201

COBALT (ATOMIC ABSORPTION, FURNACE TECHNIQUE)

1.0 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

1.1 See Section 1.0 of Method 7000.

2.0 SUMMARY OF METHOD

2.1 See Section 2.0 of Method 7000.

3.0 INTERFERENCES

3.1 See Section 3.0 of Method 7000 if interferences are suspected.

3.2 Excess chloride may interfere. It is necessary to verify by standard additions that the interference is absent.

4.0 APPARATUS AND MATERIALS

4.1 For basic apparatus, see Section 4.0 of Method 7000.

4.2 Instrument parameters (general):

4.2.1 **Drying time and temp:** 30 sec at 125°C.

4.2.2 **Ashing time and temp:** 30 sec at 900°C.

4.2.3 **Atomizing time and temp:** 10 sec at 2700°C.

4.2.4 **Purge gas:** Argon.

4.2.5 **Wavelength:** 240.7 nm.

4.2.6 **Background correction:** Required.

4.2.7 Other operating parameters should be set as specified by the particular instrument manufacturer.

NOTE: The above concentration values and instrument conditions are for a Perkin-Elmer HGA-2100, based on the use of a 20- μ L injection, continuous-flow purge gas, and nonpyrolytic graphite. Smaller sizes of furnace devices or those employing faster rates of atomization can be operated using lower atomization temperatures for shorter time periods than the above-recommended settings.

5.0 REAGENTS

5.1 See Section 5.0 of Method 7000.

5.2 Preparation of standards:

5.2.1 **Stock solution:** Dissolve 1.000 g of cobalt metal (analytical reagent grade) in 20 mL of 1:1 HNO₃ and dilute to 1 liter with Type II water. Chloride or nitrate salts of cobalt (II) may be used. Although numerous hydrated forms exist, they are not recommended unless the exact composition of the compound is known. Alternatively, procure a certified standard from a supplier and verify by comparison with a second standard.

5.2.2 Prepare dilutions of the stock solution to be used as calibration standards at the time of analysis. The calibration standards should be prepared using the same type of acid and at the same concentrations as in the sample after processing (0.5% v/v HNO₃).

6.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION, PRESERVATION, AND HANDLING

6.1 See Chapter Three, Section 3.1.3, Sample Handling and Preservation.

7.0 PROCEDURE

7.1 Sample preparation: The procedures for preparation of the sample are given in Chapter Three, Section 3.2.

7.2 See Method 7000, Paragraph 7.3, Furnace Procedure.

8.0 QUALITY CONTROL

8.1 See Section 8.0 of Method 7000.

9.0 METHOD PERFORMANCE

9.1 Precision and accuracy data are not available at this time.

9.2 The performance characteristics for an aqueous sample free of interferences are:

Optimum concentration range: 5-100 ug/L.

Detection limit: 1 ug/L.

10.0 REFERENCES

1. Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes, EPA-600/4-82-055, December 1982, Method 219.2.

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